CLAIMS:

- 1. A method for controlling the growth and/or development of a cancer in an animal or avian species said method comprising administering to said animal or avian species an effective amount of a phospholipase inhibitor or a functional derivative or homologue wo thereof.
- 2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor or derivative or homologue reduces the levels and/or activities of a phospholipase to an extent to reduce the growth and/or development of cancer cells.
- 3. A method according to claim 1 wherein the growth and/or development of cancer is in an animal.
- 4. A method according to claim 3 wherein the animal is a human.
- 5. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor reduces the volume of cancer in the animal or avian species.
- 6. A method according to claim 1 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor inhibits more than one type of phospholipase type A_2 (PLA₂).
- 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein the PLA₂ inhibitor is derived from *Notechis scutatus* or *Notechis ater*.
- 8. A method according to claim 7 wherein the PLA₂ inhibitor comprises an amino acid sequence substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or any one of SEQ ID NOs:4 to 11 or 12 to 33.
- 9. A method according to claim 6 wherein the PLA₂ inhibitor comprises an amino

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10. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein the phospholipase inhibitor inhibits secretory PLA₂ which in turn reduces expression of COX2 thereby reducing catalytic conversion of arachidonic acid to prostaglandin.

acid sequence substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3.

- 11. A biological composition useful for the treatment and/of prophylaxis of cancer in a target animal or bird such as a human, primate, livestock animal or companion animal said composition comprising a PLA₂ inhibitor such as but not limited to the PLA₂ defined by any one of amino acids sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a derivative, homologue, analogue or functional equivalent thereof.
- 12. A method for controlling the growth and/or development of a cancer in an animal or avian species said method comprising administering to said animal or avian species an effective amount of a PLA₂ inhibitor having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in any one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or an amino acid sequence having at least 60% identity to any one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a functional derivative or homologue thereof which PLA₂ inhibitor or derivative or homologue reduces the level or activity of secretory PLA₂ thereby reducing expression of a genetic sequence encoding a cycloxygenase or reducing cycloxygenase activity.
- 13. A biological composition useful for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of cancer in a target animal or bird such as a human, primate, livestock animal or companion animal said composition comprising a PLA₂ inhibitor such as but not limited to the PLA₂ defined by any one of amino acids sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 11 or 12 to 33 or a derivative, homologue, analogue or functional equivalent thereof.

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